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CALIFORNIA FOREST AND RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION
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PRELIMINARY STATEMENT ON PRODUCTION OF LUMBER AND OTHER TIMBER PRODUCTS IN CALIFORNIA, 1937 1/

This is a preliminary summary of data submitted in returns from the lumber census conducted for the Census Bureau by the Forest Service. Returns were received from 90 percent of California operators at the time of compilation. Late returns may change summary figures slightly, in addition to possible corrections which may be made in the final published report by the Bureau of the Census.

LUMBER CUT - M Ft. B.M.
(Mills cutting 50 M or over)

SPECIES	PINE REGION		REDWOOD REGION		TOTAL	
	Volume	%	Volume	%	Volume	%
Ponderosa pine	796,916	62.1	250	-	797,166	45.0
Sugar pine	268,365	20.9	-	-	268,365	15.1
White fir	(2) 61,079	4.8	44	-	61,123	3.5
Douglas fir	123,382	9.6	49,011	10.0	172,393	9.7
Cedar	(3) 33,266	2.6	2,575	.5	35,841	2.0
Redwood	-	-	(4) 434,856	88.7	434,856	24.5
Spruce	-	-	3,633	.8	3,633	.2
Hemlock	500	-	-	-	500	-
Oak	7	-	-	-	7	-
Other species	100	-	-	-	100	-
TOTALS	(5) 1,283,615	100.0	490,419	100.0	1,774,034	100.0
In addition to the above, 35 mills producing less than 50 M each cut					866	
TOTAL, all mills					1,774,900	
Lath	19,032 M pcs		1,688 M pcs.		20,720 M pcs.	
Shingles	1,473 Squares		104,353 Squares		105,826 Squares	

(2) Includes California red fir (Abies magnifica), which is not produced in sufficient quantity to have established a separate market status.
(3) The pine-region cut was incense cedar with the exception of a very small amount of Port Orford; all of the redwood-region cedar was Port Orford.
(4) Redwood of the coast - Sequoia sempervirens.
(5) About 27 million feet, mostly Douglas fir, was cut from Oregon logs.

1/ Compiled by L. M. Bean, Special Agent, Bureau of the Census, and Clerk, California Forest and Range Experiment Station.

COMPARATIVE PRODUCTION SINCE 1920

Totals, including hardwoods, for all mills in California (and Nevada when mills operated) cutting 50 M feet and over per annum, and percentage of increase or decrease of each year as compared with preceding year:

Year	Cut M feet	%
1921	1,350,438	
1922	1,720,556	27.4
1923	2,118,094	23.1
1924	1,996,496	-5.7
1925	2,042,991	2.3
1926	2,187,959	7.1
1927	2,070,811	-5.4
1928	1,952,659	-5.7
1929	2,063,229	5.7
1930	1,514,263	-26.6
1931	957,740	-36.8
1932	680,520	-28.9
1933	784,626	15.3
1934	1,014,747	29.3
1935	1,355,713	33.6
1936	1,643,525	21.2
1937	1,774,034	7.9

The upward trend of lumber production in California continued in 1937, although the increase in production in that year was somewhat less than it was for the several years preceding. The actual increase of 130,509 M feet B.M. represents a 7.9 percent rise, of which 93,736 M feet B.M. was in the pine region and 36,743 M feet B.M. in the redwood region. The percentage of increase of the cut of the two regions over the preceding year's cut was very close, the pine region showing 7.8 percent and the redwood region 8 percent. Ponderosa pine still remains the principal species cut and redwood next in importance. Sugar pine showed a surprising gain of 19.6 percent over the 1936 cut of that species.

SPLIT PRODUCTS 6/

PRODUCT	PINE REGION		REDWOOD REGION		TOTAL	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	No. pcs.	dollars	No. pcs.	dollars	No. pcs.	dollars
Ties	7,843	2,703	452,933	272,653	460,776	275,356
Posts	21,980	3,371	330,215	51,516	352,195	54,887
Stakes	-	-	2,581,803	82,508	2,581,803	82,508
Shakes	347,900	5,749	704,833	11,703	1,052,733	17,452

6/ Returns not complete. Statistics in this field are very difficult to obtain because of the nature of the industry. Most of the producers dispose of their product through factors, or work on a contract or piece-production basis, and often in conjunction with other lines of work. The number of such workers fluctuates with the market for their products and with the availability of other employment. Many of them, also, have difficulty in understanding the questionnaires. It is, consequently, very difficult to maintain any adequate list of such workers, and to obtain reports from all of them. The table includes only a few of the more important products produced by operators from whom Census reports could be obtained.